



HUNTING TRAILS

CARTRIDGES & ARROWS



*Newsletter for the Missouri Department of Conservation's
Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, & Shooting Programs*

Volume 1, Issue 4

"Over 1 Million Served"

1st Quarter 2009

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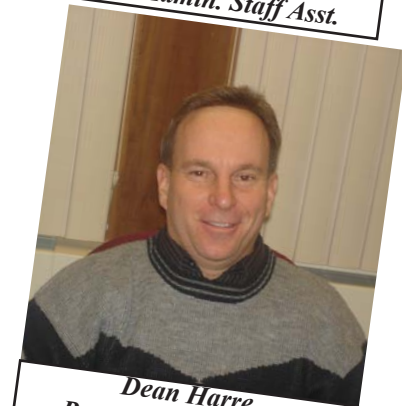
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Coordinator's Corner

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator
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As I sit here just putting the final touches on this newsletter, the weather has turned cold, icy and snowy and I find myself thinking back on this past year with some pride in accomplishments, but also with some longing. I have found this last year to be one of my busiest and most productive, but at a price in a lack of hunting and fishing. Not a single day fishing in state and since spring turkey season, only one day on the hunt, pathetic. But I look forward to the waning days left in this hunting season as many of you do and plan on making a little more time to put some meat in the freezer. I especially love the winter hunting seasons and the energy they bring to the soul.

Some of the other things I look forward to is getting out to all the upcoming banquets. A time to visit with all the instructors I've come to know and work with over the years and those I have not personally met yet. The camaraderie and exchanging of ideas are great and a high point to any year. Of course I can't make them all, several are on the same dates as others so I am pleased that Lorna and Patti are willing to step forward and attend without hesitation. I have received such great support for the program from not only the field this past year, but everyone above me in administration. And I can actually say, that everyone in administration that can make these banquets is really looking forward to getting out with you.

We will be announcing the 2008 Instructor of the Year Awards and presentations by the Commission this month. For you hard working folks out there we are adding for the year 2009, two new annual awards, a Volunteer Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year and MDC Staff (non-agent) Instructor of the Year Awards as we try to recognize others that make our programs great. Additionally, I am working having you a choice for your 1,000 hour award of not only the current shotgun, but either a muzzleloader or a rifle. But, I still have a lot of details to work out to try and make this last one happen, no promises.

As we look forward to this next year, I see great possibilities and new opportunities to excel. We are still working on a new instructor certification program, changes to the field day program, instructor lesson plan, instructor power points on CD and DVD, and much more.

I must admit though, much of the ideas for changes or new items are from you in the field or start by your ideas that lead to new ideas. So hopefully many of you see yourself in the program as much as part of the program as we continue in 2009. I must admit, I have had so many great ideas coming

in that I've had to get a large lined white board to keep track of everything and where I can see them regularly.

Remember to keep in touch with your fellow instructors and OSS's. I've received several contacts from instructors that want to be involved, but are never contacted when classes are scheduled near them, so let's try to keep reaching out to others in our counties and nearby counties to help out and have opportunities to stay involved.

So I hope to see many of you this next couple of months at the banquets, classes and other events. I hope you all have had a great holiday season and wonderful new year.



New Training Aid and Promotion Item for Instructors

Working with a new company offering a unique safety device, we have been able to get enough for every instructor to start. This new device is great for classroom safety, safety during programs on the range or out in the field. Called a Saf-T-Plug, this device fits into the ejection port of any side ejecting 10, 12, 16 or 20 gauge pump or semi-auto shotgun to keep the bolt back and prevent accidental firing. Easy to use, it simply squeezes together and rolls into the open ejection port then expands back to stay in-place. Anyone can visually see from at least 100yds away that the firearm is safe during any program, event or hunt. These will be given out during upcoming banquets to attending active instructors and to OSS to get out to instructors that don't make their banquet.



Man's age old question is finally answered!

Yes, he does do it in the woods.

Recent improvements at a trio of unstaffed ranges help shooters in the Southwest Region get on target.

"They are really nice! Marked on each is "25 yards, 50 yards, and 100 yards." The target area and backstop are in great shape. The recent work done by our Department of Conservation is surely appreciated by this outdoorsman. My thanks to all who made it possible. I know it was a team effort." - Sid Allsbury, Cassville

Kind words from a letter sent to the Missouri Department of Conservation from a shooter who recently took his son and grandchildren to the newly renovated Flag Spring shooting range in western Barry County.



Flag Spring 50 yard & 100 yard ranges. There is also a 25 yard distance at this range.

Flag Spring is just one of three unstaffed ranges to receive some needed improvements in southwest Missouri. The Busiek shooting range in Christian County and the Pleasant Hope shooting range in Polk County have also been recently renovated. Not much more than dirt backstops with a few old wooden benches, these ranges are now some of the nicest in the state with improvements that shooters just can't say enough about.

The new improvements include concrete pads at each shooting location along with two new concrete benches at each distance. In addition, shooters will find gun racks to set their firearms in. A new target holding systems have also been installed at each range allowing for paper targets to be placed on them so shooters can safely shoot at the targets with the bullets going where they are supposed to, into the backstop. The Missouri Wildlife Code mandates that only paper targets attached to provided target holders may be used at MDC unstaffed rifle ranges. Shooters should plan on bringing paper targets and a stapler or tape to help attached the targets to the rubber belting.

At the Pleasant Hope rifle range, upgrades have also been made on the improved shotgun field there where shooters can shoot trap. Users will need to provide their own clay birds and thrower.



The improved shotgun field at Pleasant Hope.

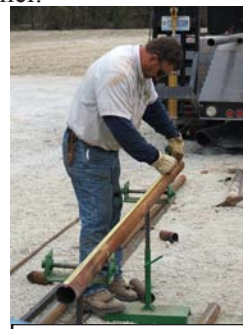
As Mr. Allsbury stated above, it was a team effort. Forestry, Design and Development and Outreach and Education staff members all played important



D&D workers pour concrete to help hold target holding post in place.

In addition to the safety improvements, Best Management Practices (BMP's) have also been put into place to help address lead concerns. At each range a French drain system filled with 2 inch limestone rocks along with crushed limestone on the backstops help abate the lead and neutralizes it when it comes in contact with water.

Finally, a big thanks goes out to all the shooters that use these ranges and help make sure they are used in the manner they're designed for. Should you be at any MDC shooting range and notice someone vandalizing it, please gather all the information you can without putting yourself in harm's way and then report it to your local Conservation Agent or Sheriff's Department. You can also call MDC's Operation Game Thief (OGT) number at 1-800-392-1111.



Forestry's Kevin Welch measures a piece of pipe as he works to install a new fence at the Pleasant Hope shooting range.



Pleasant Hope shooting range offers shooting at 100 yards and 25 yards. A new center berm, allows shooters at each distance to shoot much safer now with target retrieval being much easier and safer.

Student Fee Reminder

Instructors as a reminder and answer for any questions; MDC does not and instructors may not charge anyone to take the traditional Hunter Education or Bowhunter Education Courses. Some courses are held at venues where a nominal usage fee is charged by the facility, i.e. school, college, university, etc. to cover costs for electricity, water, sewage, janitorial, etc. This money goes to that facility and none goes to MDC or instructors in any form. Use of these type sites must have approval first from the region's OSS before scheduled and any fee can be charged to the students. There must be other free options in the local area for those who cannot afford or do not wish to pay this usage fee.

It Happened To Me!!!***Passing On a Tradition.***

By Jim McBride, Missouri Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor

I didn't start hunting until I was 25yrs old, we won't go into how long ago that was. I hunted with my then in-laws for the first 3-4 years or so but didn't feel they felt the same way about the resource we were hunting so I decided to hunt by myself one year. Fortunately, I met a fellow before the next season that seemed to share my point of view and we hunted together for the next 22 years. Unfortunately, he passed away unexpectedly, so I was by myself again.

I already knew that hunting alone was not fun nor a very safe way to go. As fortune would have it, my oldest grandson turned 11 that same year. I was already a leader in his scout troop, so I signed him up for Hunter Education safety course. He passed, barely, and without really realizing it I was starting a new tradition. He knew pawpaw always went deer hunting every year and with good luck most of the time brought home a deer. Now he was getting to go too. It was hard for me that first year, of course I took my grandson to the same place, for the youth hunt, that I had spent the last 22years hunting. While we didn't have any success that time, we still had a good time and he couldn't wait to go again.

The following year I sent in a managed youth hunt application for him and he got selected. I'm not sure who was more excited. The place we were to go was Peck Ranch, my all time favorite place to hunt and enjoy the outdoors. I didn't even need a flashlight that first morning, I was taking him to 'my' spot. I found an area where we could both sit, he on the downhill side of a tree, I on the uphill side of the tree. We sat there for a few minutes discussing things like safety, hunger and thirst, going over the correct procedure for taking the safety off, being cold, wondering when it was going to start getting light enough to see, and shoot. I looked at my watch and figured I had time for a little nap.

I was startled awake by the announcement. "THERE'S A DEER!" SH-h-h was my immediate reply and then I laughed to myself....that's exactly what I think every time I see a deer. It was barely light enough to make out two doe making a hasty retreat. I reminded him it was still too early to shoot and to whisper if he needs to tell me he sees any more deer. His retort: "I didn't want you to have a heart attack if I shot."

Later on we saw a string of 7-8 turkey make its way down our side of the hill across the bottom and up the far side. Then not too long, it seemed after that we saw a string of

doe's, 5-6 do the same thing. My heart was pounding, I kept waiting for him to raise his rifle, they were around 50 yards out on the far side of the bottoms, climbing a little point. He never raised his rifle. When we went back to camp for lunch I asked him why he didn't shoot. He said two things: "I didn't think they were close enough and they were climbing a point and I couldn't really tell what was on the other side." Like I said, this was a place I had been going to for the past 22 years. I knew the hill behind the point the deer were going was higher than the point and was close enough to be a good backstop, but he didn't. My new hunting partner made me very proud and is the kind of person I hope to hunt with for many more years. On our way home, I told my grandson, "whether you pull the trigger or not is entirely your decision. It's your decision if the shot is good, if you feel comfortable with the shot, I now trust you to make good decisions as to whether it's a safe shot. As long as you want to go hunting I'll be glad to take you whether you shoot or not."

The following year his younger brother passed his Hunter Safety course and we went on the Youth Turkey hunt. We were in the bottoms of a conservation area in northeastern Missouri. My oldest grandson went with his uncle, my son-in-law, and I was with my younger grandson. Once it got to hunting time I started with a little cluck and the booming retort from a Tom was so loud I was sure we'd feel the ground tremble as he came in. There's a 'dry' creek that runs through the bottoms there and unfortunately they'd gotten a lot of rain, so this 'dry' creek was full to the brim, and the Tom wouldn't cross. We heard some coyotes yelping, kind of late for them to still be out. My oldest grandson and son-in-law had a front row seat we found out later, they crossed the bottoms near where they were sitting.

I think maybe I was taking another 'nap' when I was startled awake by the announcement... "THERE'S A TURKEY!" SH-h-h was my immediate reply and then I laughed to myself.... that's exactly what I think every time I see a turkey.

Hunter Green***The People Behind a Conservation Success Story***

By Steve Sanetti

Today's green movement uses certain buzzwords -- organic, locavore, renewable -- to the wry amusement of 15 million to 20 million of us who've actually lived the eco-friendly lifestyle that these words describe.

We are hunters.

As a subset of America, we're admittedly somewhat smaller than we used to be. Our numbers have been steadily pressed beneath a culture growing ever faster, more complex and distant from its rural ancestry. Now, like growing vegetables, gathering fresh eggs and raising farm animals for the table, the proclivity and skill to harvest Earth's bounty of wild game

(cont., on page 5 - Hunter Green)

(cont., from page 4 - Hunter Green)

-- and to pass on this tradition to those longing for simpler ways of life -- reside in only a relative few of us.

The meats that hunters and their families consume are grown unfettered by hormones, processed feeds or fences. Low in fat and cholesterol, high in protein, wild game is organic defined. The American Heart Association and American Cancer Society recommend venison, rabbit, pheasant and duck over many commercially produced, packaged and distributed alternatives.

Data gathered by my organization show that 84 percent of us hunt exclusively in our home states. Only 5 percent never hunt locally. Compared with consumers of U.S. supermarket food, which routinely travels as much as 2,500 miles from source to table, we are model locavores.

But "renewable" is perhaps where hunters shine greenest.

Today, every state has thriving game populations in habitats that sustain hunted as well as non-hunted species. It's a richness of life that many Americans enjoy regardless of their environmental persuasion. Yet most also take it for granted, unaware of the mechanisms that sustain this public resource. They see more wildlife every year but are oblivious to why that's so.

Begun well over a century ago, the success of modern conservation can only be fully understood against the backdrop of historical slaughter for markets that took 40 million buffalo to the brink of extinction and 5 billion passenger pigeons beyond it. It was hunters who led a revolution of new values, new science and new approaches for responsible use of these resources. Seasons, game limits and wildlife conservation funds all came from hunters, and we are immensely proud of that effort. Because of us, white-tailed deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, wild turkeys, wood ducks and hundreds of other cherished life forms transitioned from vanishing to flourishing.

Even in today's renaissance of eco-consciousness, we remain the most stalwart supporters of wild things. Hunters and sport-shooters now pay for more than 80 percent of all conservation and habitat programs in America. Through licenses, tags, permits, fees and special excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, we've paid -- and state fish and game agencies have successfully plied -- more than \$5.3 billion since 1939. And we pushed for this tax on ourselves. No conservation system has accomplished more.

As the cost of conservation rises, we're upping our outlays even as we remain a relatively small percentage of the population. In fact, our data show that the price of hunting licenses is outpacing the rate of inflation by more than 30 percent. Each year America's hunters contribute more for wildlife.

Taxing hunters to fund the health of public wildlife is a proud part of our heritage. In tomorrow's world, however, this

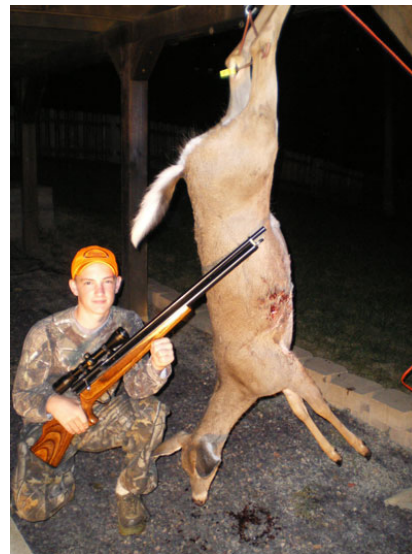
financing may be merely the second-best by-product of what we do. As civilization struggles to balance modern lifestyles with organic, local, renewable resources, hunters are indeed among the deepest wells of expertise on the planet.

Our very identity clings steadfastly to stewardship of land, clean water and air, intimate knowledge of natural communities, and careful interaction with the good earth -- because that's how we've ensured abundant wildlife and good hunting for more than 100 years.

For us, the amusing irony is that American society, which has looked down its nose at hunters more sternly with each passing generation, is discovering that camouflage has been a primary shade of green all along.

Steve Sanetti is president and chief executive of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, a trade association based in Connecticut. Previously he was an executive and general counsel for the firearms manufacturer Sturm, Ruger and Co.

Possible first-ever Missouri deer taken with modern air rifle



In urban areas where homeowners cringe at the pop-pop of gunshot, a new hunting method may prove to be more socially acceptable.

In what may be a first for Missouri deer hunting, a 14-year-old hunter shot a yearling doe Oct. 5 with an air rifle. Using a 422grn hollow point out of a .458 cal Quackenbush air rifle, at about 40 yards out, the shot

went completely through the deer, with a large exit wound.

The deer was taken in Wildwood, Mo., a St. Louis suburb, by Jeff Cox (pictured), a freshman at St. John Vianney high school in Kirkwood, Mo. He has been hunting since he was eight years old.

Missouri Department of Conservation has established rules for urban deer hunting, a practice that is important to keeping populations in check in areas where there is no natural predator for deer. The urban portion does not give hunters free rein to hunt anywhere in an urban county. You must abide by all local ordinances.

States that require BHE for some sort of Bowhunting season or special hunt.

Alaska	Montana	Rhode Island
Connecticut	Nebraska	South Dakota
Idaho	New Hampshire	Vermont
Louisiana	New Jersey	
Maine	New York	

Conservation Commission Addresses Permit Restructuring

Friday, December 19, 2008

JEFFERSON CITY (MO) – At its December 19 meeting in Jefferson City, the Missouri Conservation Commission discussed changes to the structure and pricing of hunting, fishing and trapping permits as proposed by the Commission in September.

Public input, according to the Commission, has again proven to be an essential component of regulation development. Following the recent public comment period on proposed permit changes, several recommendations included in the original package have been sidelined or modified.

"We have a rich history of being a citizen-led and citizen-driven Conservation Department," said Commission Chairman Chip McGeehan. "Citizen involvement and trust are essential parts of conservation success in our state, and we thank the many Missourians who have shared their opinions on the proposed permit changes. We will continue to seek points of view from all of our stakeholders, listen, and respond in ways that best protect Missouri's resources and serve all Missourians."

The proposed 80-acre resident landowner requirement was stopped. After taking into consideration the severe economic downturn affecting Missouri's citizens, and in response to public comments, the Commission decided to end advancement of the proposed recommendations to, (1) increase the resident landowner acreage requirement for no-cost deer and turkey permits from 5 to 80 acres, and (2) eliminate lessee privileges.

Conservation Department Director John Hoskins explained, "A growing number of Missourians are small-acreage landowners and many embrace wildlife management as a primary purpose for some if not all of their land. We support them, and all landowners, and recognize the many habitat benefits that result from landowner efforts. Private landowners have always been, and continue to be, a critical component of Missouri's successful wildlife management program. We will continue to seek input from all landowners regarding any additional changes that may affect them and will proactively seek landowner input prior to any future proposals regarding landowner permits."

In addition, the Commission stopped proposed resident permit price increases.

"Our economy is in much worse shape than it was when we first proposed the price increases," explained Hoskins. "We are sensitive to the plight of our fellow Missourians during this unprecedented recession. The higher cost of living, increasing unemployment and general economic uncertainty are affecting us all. We hope that by eliminating these price increases, we can help Missouri hunters, trappers and anglers weather these difficult economic times."

The Commission also voiced support for ending advancement of the recommendation to establish a new

senior "forever" permit. With this action, people over 65 years will continue to be able to hunt small game and fish for free in Missouri, with no permit required. As originally crafted, the "forever" permit seemed to confuse many citizens. The Department received considerable public comment on this particular issue.

The Commission continued to support the proposed recommendations regarding gathering basic essential landowner information consistent with past practices, but approved the delay of implementation from Fall 2009 to Spring 2010.

Through the Department's existing point-of-sale permit system, landowners receiving no-cost deer and turkey permits provide their name, address, county and acreage of their land. The change envisioned would be consistent with a past requirement that simply adds collection of the legal description of their land, i.e.: township, section and range. Hoskins explained that the information will help to verify ownership. "It will be landowner friendly and simple," he added.

Following public comments, the Commission expressed continued support for the recommendation to establish consistent Hunter Education and age requirements for all mentors. This recommendation simply establishes consistent requirements for all Missouri citizens.

In addition, the Commission continued to support the establishment of a standard minimum legal age of six years for obtaining deer and turkey permits, including for no-cost landowner permits.

The Commission remains focused on the priority of growing hunter and angler numbers in Missouri. As a result, the Commission voiced support to continue forward with the recommendation to simplify youth permits and slash the cost of deer, turkey and trout permits purchased for youth by 50%.

New Permit Restructuring and Pricing FAQs

In light of public comments and the economic downturn, the Conservation Commission at its December 19, 2008 meeting voted to stop advancement of the following changes to permit requirements and resident price increases:

- Proposal to change landowner and lessee requirements for "No-Cost" deer and turkey permits
- Proposal to increase resident permit fees
- Proposal to implement senior "Forever" permits.

Commission Approved Moving Forward With Rule-Making Process on the Following Changes, to Become Effective July 1, 2009:

- Establishing a 50-percent discounted price for resident and nonresident youth on deer, turkey and trout permits
- Allowing resident youth under the age of 16 to trap without a permit
- Setting a minimum age of 6 for obtaining deer and

(cont., on page 17 - FAQ's)

Hunter Education Student guides are not for everyone.

By: Tony L. Legg, State Hunter Education & Range Coordinator

We would like to clarify some questions that have been coming up on who can or should receive HE student guides.

Due to the expense of these guides, they are not a free MDC publication item to be handed out to any or everyone; they are considered a restricted item.

These manuals are to only be handed out during a Hunter Education Class or Online Field Day to those students that are actually taking the course to become certified. Do not give them out to family members just at the course to be with the student, but not testing. If the person wants to follow along with the student, they should share with the student or an instructor can loan the person one for the in class sessions, but collect it back before the end of the class.

Multiple day/evening classes where a student takes his guide home and forgets to bring it back, do not give them another guide to take with them, let them borrow a spare guide during the classroom session, but collect it back before they leave.

Those wanting guides to allow students to pre-study for the course, unless they have an IEP that states this need and do not have access to a computer, do not give them a guide to take home. Those wanting to pre-study should be directed to our online course where they can study any or all chapters and do chapter reviews (even pretests) as much as they want completely free, then come to the traditional class.

If they do not have access to the internet and have an IEP or obvious learning disability, give them a guide and just please ensure that they are aware they need to bring that same guide with them to the course.

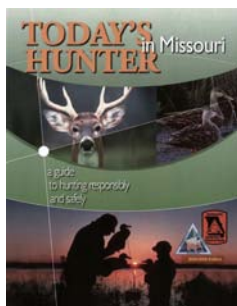
Instructors that forget their lesson plan and/or copy of the guide should not take a new guide and damage it, please. Use a new one during the class and put it back when done.

Every current instructor received a new guide in the mail, only new instructor candidates going through their certification training should need to get a new manual. Now, are there situations where there may be exceptions to the above, yes, however this should be the rare exception and not the norm.

Thanks for helping out with this.

Hunting, fishing, drawing, and music occupied my every moment. Cares I knew not, and cared naught about them.

John James Audubon



Because You Asked?

What is that blue form that a student sometimes brings to a class?

This form is sent out to any hunter that the Conservation Commission has revoked their hunting privileges due to a hunting incident. Their hunting privileges can not be reinstated until they complete and pass a Hunter Education course. Additionally, they can take it no sooner than six-months before the end of their revocation period shown in Section I.

When they attend and pass your class, they will surrender this form with Section I already filled in, they must complete Section II. The instructor is to take the form, complete section III and send it in with your class paperwork, **do not return it to the student.**



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION HUNTER EDUCATION CERTIFICATION VERIFICATION RECORD



INSTRUCTIONS: As indicated in your notification letter, your hunting privileges in Missouri have been revoked for _____ year(s). You are also required to take or re-take the Missouri Hunter Education course not before six months prior to your revocation end date. Present this form to the instructor on the day of your class. The instructor will retain the form until the course and certification are completed, then fill out Section III, sign and send in with their course paperwork.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
HUNTER EDUCATION COORDINATOR
PO BOX 180
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-0180

SECTION I: TO BE COMPLETED BY INTERNAL AUDITOR OFFICE

Name _____ (Last) _____ (First) _____ (Middle)

Date of Birth _____ (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year)

Dates of Hunting Privilege Revocation:

From _____ (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year) to _____ (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year)

Current Conservation ID number _____

SECTION II: TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT (After successful completion of class)

Name _____ (Last) _____ (First) _____ (Middle)

Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

SECTION III: TO BE COMPLETED BY HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE INSTRUCTOR

Name _____ (Last) _____ (First) _____ (Middle) Instructor Number _____

Class Date(s) _____

Class Location _____ County _____

Instructor's Signature _____ Date _____

Revised 11/07



Lake City Range & Outdoor Education Center

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A face lift for an old range.

Good things come to those who wait. The relocation of Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center is well on its way. The picture shows the newly poured foundation of the Education Center which includes the classroom, booth area and storage. The entire area where the new range is to be built is starting to take shape, thanks to the outstanding weather we have had in the KC region the last four months. A lot of ground preparation was needed prior to pouring the concrete foundation for the Education Center and part of the footer for the pistol range. Work is now being done on the range's watershed filtration system which will be located beneath the range parking lot.

As the weeks go by the new Lake City will continue to take shape. The staff at Lake City is very anxious to see the range completed and looks forward to moving into the facility. The new range is not projected to be completed until late 2009.

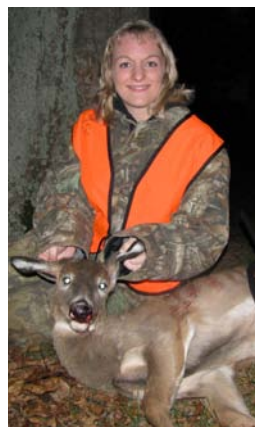
The last half of 2008 Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center has experienced a sharp increase in attendance of HE and BHE classes, as well as the public programs facilitated at the range. Our program calendar for 2009 will be quite busy. Starting off the New Year the Missouri Trout Association will facilitate a Fly Tying class which will start 14 January. In February, the range will have a Bowhunter Education class. We look forward to seeing you at the range. Happy New Year!

"How, given the canine teeth and close-set eyes that declare the human animal to be a predator, had we come up with the notion that oat bran is more natural to eat than chicken?"

Valerie Martin, The Great Divorce

As I write this I am reflecting on this past fall and the great things that I experienced in the outdoors of the Show me State. For the past two years now I have been taking my wife, Trina along on a few hunting trips with hopes of her harvesting a deer. On our first outing this past fall, I reminded my wife not to wear any "smelly stuff", perfume etc. She assured me she hadn't, but the innocent enough magazine she packed along was loaded with deer scaring smells. Who would have thought that a magazine would prove to be evil when in pursuit of whitetails?

After our 1st experience for the year and ripping the perfume infested pages out of the magazine we went for the second time on November 23rd. It was a great evening and I knew deer movement would be good. We were overlooking a clover food plot along with a brasic mix for winter forage. After about 1 hour of sitting I spotted a young doe crossing the food plot at about 100 yards. After preparing Trina for the shot, I placed a stick under the gun for support and bleated at the doe to stop her. My wife put the cross hairs on the shoulder and made a great shot, dropping the doe where she had stood.



Not only was this my wife's first deer but it was extra special because at the time Trina was 5 months pregnant, meaning our future child was experiencing the action as well. That may be the youngest Missouri mentored youth hunt in state history!

Not only was Trina successful but I too harvested several deer this past season along with my best buck with a bow (pictured above in header) on November 9, 2008. The buck had 8 points and had a live weight of 230 lbs. I hope this past fall and holiday season was good to you and your family as well.

Listed below are the programs that will be offered at Henges in January, February and March. If you are interested in attending or helping teach please let me know.

January

- 8th Range Volunteer Meeting
- 15th Shotgun Reloading Simplified.
- 22nd Metallic Cartridge Reloading

"My idea of fast food is a mallard." - Ted Nugent



Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Eric Edwards
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I don't know about everyone else but 2008 came and went before I knew it. I hope everyone had a good deer season things were a bit slow for us on my farm, however my daughter Ashley managed to take her first buck during the youth season this year.



We have several programs this winter that we could use some help with if anyone has some free time, please let me know. Our two biggest events will be our youth and women's pheasant hunts in January and February.

January

6th – 8th Hunter Education Class 5:30 pm
17th Youth Pheasant Hunt 7 am

February

3rd – 5th Hunter Education Class 5:30 pm
11th Basic .22 Rifle Class 6 pm
21st Women's Pheasant Hunt 7 am

March

10th – 12th Hunter Education Class 5:30 pm
18th & 19th Basic Shotgun Class 6 pm
25th & 26th Basic Trap Shooting Class 6 pm

Have a friend that is not into hunting, but loves to fish and would like to help others enjoy it?

Denise Otto at the Busch office has a unique program that could use some volunteer help, it's called Go Fish. It is being held at 4 locations around the St. Louis area, Busch, Bellefontaine, Forest Park, and Suson Park. If you think this may be of interest to these friends and others, have them drop Denise a line or call the Busch Regional Office.



Kansas City Region, KC Metro District

Outdoor Skills Specialist
David Wyatt
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The past two months were the most active for instructors in this area. Along with the increase in classes taking place, instructors are active doing Safety Day Programs for local Wal-Mart stores and programs for businesses. Also, this is the time of the year that dads involved with scouts start thinking about firearm safety programs.



Agents Cole and Taylor talk to students at field day review

Due to the efforts made by instructors, regional September events were very successful. The Online Field Day went well, with Don Sears serving as Chief Instructor with the assistance of Andy Gerrard, Robert Cross, Lee Vogel, Ray Lee, Jim Shinneman, agents Derek Cole and Jim Taylor. The following weekend Chief Instructor Heather Warrick, working with instructors Candice Price, Cisco Peake, Hollis Archer and Shane Luallen, conducted a hunter education in a new community center in the Hispanic area of the city. Hopefully this will generate interest in other programs we offer.

The last event for September was the annual National Hunting & Fishing Day Event. Instructors served as range officers for the cowboy action range, Judy Buckbee ran the air rifle range, instructors made sure the turkey shoot went safely and the Missouri Hunter Education Association had an information booth as well as the Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation.

Our region's instructors have always been unselfish with their time and constantly step forward to assist with youth-related hunting opportunities. I want pass on a "thumbs up" to Heather Warrick for the way she took on the responsibility of mentoring a young lady on a deer hunt. Getting the request on a Friday, Heather taught a class on Saturday, took the hunter to the range and they were in the field Sunday. A job well done.

(cont., on page 10 - KC dist.)

(cont., from page 9 - KC dist.)

Our region will finish the year with the December classes, assisting with the December regional youth deer hunt and preparing for our Instructor Awards Banquet in January.

We wish all a happy holiday season.



Instructors going over field day review & testing.



Southeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
DeeDee Dockins
deedee.dockins@mdc.mo.gov

SOUTHEAST HUNTER EDUCATION AWARDS BANQUET

North: Friday, January 9th

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 453 N. West, Perryville, MO

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

South: Saturday, January 10th

Big D's BBQ, 4803 W. Blvd, Poplar Bluff, MO

Time: 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

REGISTER BY CALLING: Southeast Regional Office, 573-290-5730

SOUTHEAST INSTRUCTORS!!! There is still time to get your registrations in for the Southeast's Hunter Education Award banquets. Due to the Southeast's large territory and 2008 fuel costs cresting to \$4.00/gallon, this year's annual banquet will be divided into two banquets— North and South. Splitting the annual banquet into two separate banquets may provide ample opportunity for instructors to attend a banquet without having to drive more than an hour away. Special thanks to our Perry and Butler Hunter Education Teams for hosting the banquets in their counties. Instructors will be able to attend one banquet with a guest free of charge. Pre-registration is required. In lieu of door prizes, all active instructors will be receiving a new training aid, hopefully a new style Hunter Education Instructor cap and a new Bowhunter

Ed Instructor cap for those active instructors. Tony Legg is working on a special camo hydration backpack for all attendees only, to use both in their courses and in the field.

It's never any fun to present an award and not have an instructor present to accept the award. Please come to the banquet to celebrate the service milestones that each of these instructors have achieved. Here is a list of the instructors that will be presented awards:

STEVE BUBANOVICH	MARK GIHRING
KENNETH SHIRRELL	NEAL WAGLEY
JIM STOLL	RICK SHERMAN
DAVID WELLS	GARY OZMENT
DWAIN QUALLS	

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: DAVE HOFF

Last year, Director Hoskins addressed our region's Hunter Education Instructors. We do expect to have representation from Jefferson City, our commission, and regional staff. This is your opportunity to have MDC's ear.

Welcome new Hunter Education Instructors:

Brandon Neil: Agriculture Teacher, Jackson High School
Kirk Hendershott: Cape Team
Chad Doolen: Cape Team
Danny Counts: Cape Team
Anthony Maupin: Bollinger/Stoddard County Teams

Mark your 2009 Calendars Now:

Jan. 9, HUNTER ED BANQUET NORTH, 6:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m., Perryville
Jan. 10, HUNTER ED BANQUET SOUTH, 6:30- 9:30 p.m., Poplar Bluff
Jan. 21-22, Hunter Ed Instructor Course, 5:30-9:30 each night, East Prairie
Feb. 14, Women's Rabbit Hunt, Duck Creek
Feb. 18-19, Hunter Ed Instructor Course, 5:30-9:30 each, Cape Regional Office
Feb. 20-21, Cape HE, 5:30-9:30 Fri, 8-4 Saturday, Cape Nature Center
Feb. 28, HE Field Day, Butler County, 8:30-2:30
March 21, Women's Day in the Field, 8-5, Cape Nature Center
*April 25, Highschool Trap Shoot, Linn, Missouri
*May 2, WOODS Event, Wappapello
May 16th, Bowhunter Ed, Perry County
May 16th, HE Field Day, Scott County, 8:30-2:30
*June 22nd, Southeast 4-H Conservation Day, Madison County
July 9-11th, Catfish Clinic, Cape County
August 14-15, Cape HE, Cape Nature Center
August 29, Hunter Ed Field Day, Wappapello, 8:30-2:30
September 11-12, Cape Hunter Ed, Cape Nature Center
October 3, Youth Waterfowl Clinic, Duck Creek
October 4th, Ladies Waterfowl Clinic, Duck Creek
October 17th, CONSEP, Advanced Hunter Education Instructor Training Academy, Duck Creek
October 31, HE Field Day, Cape Nature Center, 8:30-2:30
*Hunter Education Instructor volunteers needed.



St. Louis Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists (left to right)

Scott Sarantakis, St. Louis County

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Dennis Cooke, St. Louis City, N. St. Louis County

dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov

Conrad Mallady, Crawford-Franklin-Jefferson-
Washington Counties

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Kurt Otterstein, Lincoln-St. Charles-Warren Counties

kurt.otterstein@mdc.mo.gov

It will be a new year by the time you all read this, but as I write--- the Thanksgiving Holiday is just a few days away. While I am thankful for many things, what I am thankful for in my professional life comes to mind at this moment. I am still planning my Youth Deer Hunt for that group of kids with special needs that might not otherwise have an opportunity to hunt. Of course to make this hunt possible I need the help of many volunteer instructors. As usual, many of you have called or emailed me to let me know that you will help if needed. You give so much of your time during the year teaching Hunter Education classes and still volunteer more of your time for our special events such as this youth hunt. So I am very thankful for your dedication to the Hunter Education program and I am also thankful for your willingness to donate even more time for these other programs. As time goes on we ask for more and more and you always come through. I am also thankful for your families as they sacrifice a great deal. Without their support and understanding you would not be able to help as much as you do.

Some special thanks are in order for the great help we received to complete our first three On Line Hunter Education Field Days. One of the field days was held at the Busch Office in August, one at Powder Valley in September and the third at East Central College in October. A total of 47 students were certified in the three Field Days. We want to thank the following instructors for getting us off to a solid start with the new On Line HE course: Ralph Redstone, Wally Schoffner, Floyd Bohler, Bruce Wilken, Kevin Dixon, Mark Burns, John Norrenberns, Dave Meyer, Linda Meyer and Dave Johnson. We also want to thank the following Conservation Agents for their help: Dave Guntli, Kevin Eulinger and Todd Wright. We have several more field days coming up and will

be calling for more help in the near future.

I want to also thank one other instructor for a special effort in the Sullivan Area. For ten years we have not had a Chief instructor for the Sullivan, MO classes. Instructor Tim Whitford was willing to take on that responsibility this fall and did an outstanding job conducting two courses in Sullivan. His plan is to continue being Chief Instructor in the Sullivan area, so I want thank Tim for his commitment and contribution in this area.

I hope everyone's Holiday season was safe and enjoyable. Please take this opportunity to get some much needed rest and I look forward to seeing all of you at the Hunter Education Instructor Banquet in Eureka. It will be MDC's opportunity to say, "Thank You."

On October 11 we had our annual Youth Deer Clinic at Columbia Bottom Conservation Area. We had 18 of the 25 youth drawn for the hunt show up for the mandatory clinic. On October 25-26 these youth hunted the Columbia Bottom Conservation Area which was a little tougher than usual due to all the flooding that occurred on the area this spring and summer. They were only able to harvest one 115 pound doe but everyone had a lot of fun and most had the opportunity to see deer. I would like to thank Floyd Bohler, Andy Tappmeyer, and the entire Columbia Bottom Wildlife staff for making this annual clinic and hunt a success.

I would like to send out a big thank you on a job well done to everyone who helped put on 33 Hunter Education classes in which 1032 students were certified in West/South/Central St. Louis County during 2008. In addition, I would like to thank the Bow Hunter Education Instructors who put on two classes in West/South/Central St. Louis County and certified 27 students during 2008.

We would like to thank all the instructors who worked St. Louis City and North St. Louis County on conducting 28 hunter education classes that certified 458 students.

Meetings

This information was in the last newsletter but we think that it is important enough to present it again. Hunter education instructors are encouraged to attend our new quarterly meetings. These meetings will announce general updates or changes, address questions, and share tips on how to improve your teaching. No reservations are required. Please contact your OSS with any questions. All meetings run from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

February 12, 2209, Busch Conservation Area

June 18, 2009, Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center

August 13, 2009, Forest Park Office

If some animals are good at hunting and others are suitable for hunting, then the Gods must clearly smile on hunting.
~Aristotle



Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

Jean Mayer - Cedar, Barton,
Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton,
Barry and McDonald Counties
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Greg Collier - Hickory, Polk,
Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster,
Christian, Stone and Taney
Counties
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As evident by statistics, volunteer hunter education instructors help make it possible for thousands of people to safely enjoy the outdoors each year. At printing time, only one (1) hunting related incident had occurred in the Southwest region this fall. While serious, this incident was a self inflicted non-fatal injury. Apparently the victim shot himself in the foot as he changed seating positions while hunting. This injury could have been easily prevented if the hunter had followed the Number 1 rule of firearms safety – Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times.

Bass Pro Shops recently recognized volunteer instructors that assist with public hunter education classes at the Outdoor World Store in Springfield by providing dinner at Hemingway's Restaurant. Don and Cheryl Harris organized the event and this year's guests included Mike and Laura Bookout, Gordon and Sherry Maracle, Jon and Sonya Trent, Brian and Margaret Byers, and Greg and Linda Collier. The dinner was wonderful and everyone had a great time. The highlight of the evening was recognizing Cheryl Harris for her 1,000 hour milestone (see picture below). Cheryl was rewarded for her efforts with a new shotgun and a lifetime achievement award! For more information about assisting with hunter education classes held at the Springfield,



Cheryl Harris receiving her 1000hr. Lifetime Achievement Award from Greg Collier.

Missouri, Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, please contact Don Harris at (417)887-7334.

Youth from across the region participated in the South Zone Youth Duck Season by attending the Youth Waterfowl Hunt provided by the Department. Cooperative efforts by Springfield City Utilities, Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center, and the Department made it possible for youth and their sponsors to hunt duck blinds prepared by Department staff at Fellows Lake on November 22nd & 23rd. The hunting was slow but the youth kept their safety record at 100% and everyone had a great time.

In 2008, volunteer instructors and Department staff conducted 180 hunter education classes in the Southwest region with 4,600 people in attendance. Try as we may, not every person attending a hunter education class successfully passes the test. (300 people did not pass their test this year.) It would be a great disservice to the program, our fellow hunters and the non-hunting public to certify someone that is not ready to hunt safely. Those individuals that fail are to be encouraged to try again.

Once again, thank you to our volunteer instructors for their time, dedication, and professionalism. Your work does not go unnoticed.



Kansas City Region Clinton District

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Zeb Jordan

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Greetings

I hope you had a fun and relaxing time during the holidays. If not, take time now to relax and enjoy nature. The instructor banquet is scheduled for January 24th at the Boy Scout Building near Lowry City. This is not the same location as the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation. The building we will be using is at the corner of Hwy 13 and Hwy A just north of Lowry City. Hope to see you there. Thanks for another good year in west central Missouri.

I spent some time down in the Irish Wilderness earlier this year. As I was sitting in my tree, I remembered a hunt I experienced the year before in the same location. I think you might enjoy another Jordan blunder so here goes. The spot we hunt requires us to take a boat and go up the Eleven Point River for about a quarter of a mile. Then, we walk up a cliff that is at least as tall as Mt. Kilimanjaro. Then we walk over a mile through the woods to get to a particular spot. Keep in mind we walk past a lot of deer sign just to get to this one location. My father does not seem happy about harvesting a deer unless he has to drag it for minimum of a mile. Keep in mind I'm the young one in the bunch and feeling a sense of

(cont., on page 13 - KC, Clinton)

(cont., from page 12 - KC, Clinton)

duty I try to pull more than my half so it isn't as hard on him. I believe in the physiological world they would call me his enabler. This particular morning, we stopped about a hundred yards from the tree I was going to climb and dad reached into his backpack and pulled out this little black bottle. I don't know how he found that little bottle in that back pack because he also thinks he needs to bring everything except the recliner out of his house to take hunting. I really think if he could figure out a way to get me to carry the recliner he would take it hunting as well. Well, I've never been a big fan of cover scents but he talked me into putting this cover scent on my boots so the deer would not smell our boots. This particular scent was some kind of coon concoction that dad bought hook, line, and sinker. We sprayed ourselves down to the point that any deer that walked through there would have thought that coon must have had a urinary problem. Dad had already killed his bucks and he climbed the tree next to mine so he could watch me harvest a deer. We saw a couple of deer early, then about 9:00 a.m. I saw movement on the ridge and I told dad there is something out there. I quickly realized it was not a deer but a "coon dog". I put this in quotes because if you know anything about the area, running deer with dogs is a big pastime for some of the locals. This particular dog was a big blue tick hound. He was just trotting down the ridge about a hundred yards out. This would not have bothered us at all unless a deer tried to come from that direction. However, the dog did cross the urinary river we placed across the ridge. This prompted him to come straight at our tree. I just sat there in astonishment as the dog came all the way to my tree and started making circles around it. Finally, he looked up and saw me sitting there. I'm not sure what went through his mind but I know I was not the coon he was expecting to see. He shied away and went back down the ridge. I could still see him when I heard leaves crunching from the other direction. I turned around and up out of the valley came a doe and two nice bucks. They were chasing her and keep in mind one of them was exceptional by any standards. She was on a line to come about ten yards from my tree with them right behind her. She stopped abruptly at about thirty yards and threw her nose in the air. She had smelled the dog. I stood there helpless because the bucks were still over forty yards away. Finally, she turned and went back down with the bucks right behind her. As you could imagine, I was just a little disgusted. This made me reflect back and I quickly realized I have never killed a deer at that particular location. Dad however has harvested many bucks in that location. I think there may be a reason for that but I might just be paranoid. I'm not saying don't use cover scents but sometimes they may work to well. It is your choice.

Until next time good luck and safe hunting.

Vegetarians are cool. All I eat are vegetarians - except for the occasional mountain lion steak.

Ted Nugent



Kansas City Region Sedalia District

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Mark Miller

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Greetings from the Sedalia Office

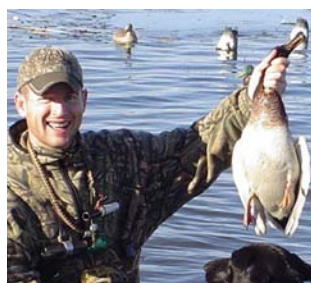
I hope each of you have had a successful and safe hunting season. The fall was very busy. During the months of October, November, and December there were 13 Hunter Education Classes here in the district, with nearly 300 students certified. Thanks to all the instructors who took more than their favorite number of students, or helped out with that extra class or two.

As we enter a new year, I need your help with a couple of things. First is Bow Hunter Education. I would like to see several BHE classes in the district this spring, and early summer. If you have not completed the necessary requirements to teach BHE, and want to do so, contact me.

Second is HE instructor recruitment. I often get referrals after a class for prospective new Instructors. I will get a name and address, but when they are contacted most of them have lost interest, or if the interest is still there they don't "feel comfortable" with the process and need a support base. I would like each instructor to find a real recruit, and mentor them through a year. Or, another possibility would be to contact someone who you know is already certified, and get them active again.

I want to thank you again for all you do, and I look forward to having a great New Year.

As Always – Hunt Safe



Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Ben Schlader

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I hope 2009 finds everyone well and ready to make the most of the New Year! I guess time flies when you're having fun. It seems like just yesterday we were looking forward to the hunting seasons, now I'm already finding myself looking back on the good times shared with friends and family. Every year, and particularly this one, it strikes me how hunters view their successes differently. I know I personally spent a lot more time looking at skies void of waterfowl than I would have preferred and as I write this there are a couple of unfilled deer permits in my back pocket. But whether successful or not, I wouldn't trade the experiences I had this year for anything.

(cont., on page 14 - NE Region)

(cont., from page 13 - NE Region)

Sometimes it's helpful to take a step back and remember how lucky we are to live where we do and enjoy our passions freely. The youth deer season comes to mind for me. In 2008 Missouri youths harvested over 10,000 deer! That's nearly 100 per county, just for youths. That to me is a testament to the hunting heritage in Missouri.

However, the youth harvest, as well as total harvest was down from 2007. Some people might find this discouraging and want to identify exactly what caused this. The fact is that many factors are and always will be somewhat out of our hands. To me that is the beauty of our pastime. In a world filled with artificial and "virtual" experiences, it remains one of the few things that we do not, and never will entirely understand and control. At least I hope so.

So let's remember how fortunate we are, look forward to next year and keep up the good work!

Here's a heads up on some upcoming events in the region:

- Jan 6th. On-Line Field Day, Instructor Training. Hannibal MDC Office.
- Jan 10th. On-Line Field Day. Ted Shanks Conservation Area.
- Jan 12th. Hunter Education Instructor Certification. MDC NE Regional Office. Kirksville.
- Jan 17th. Rabbit Hunt with Macon County Quail Forever Chapter.
- Feb 7th. Youth Upland Hunt with Macon County Quail Forever Chapter.

For more information and to sign up for these events please contact me at 660-785-2420.

Please note the following schedule of Winter Instructor Meetings

- o February 2nd. Kirksville MDC Office. 6PM
- o February 10th. Hannibal MDC Office. 6PM
- o February 19th. James Youth Center, Rothwell Park, Moberly. 6PM
- o To be announced- Clark County

A light dinner will be served at all Winter Meetings.

New equipment, thanks to Friends of NRA and Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation.

I'm happy to report that a NRA Foundation/Friends of NRA Grant has been approved, through the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation, for use in purchasing a Crossman Portable Airgun Range for the NE Region. The range features entirely enclosed walls and ceiling, is portable and can be used indoors or out. I hope to have the range available for use at our winter meetings. It should serve as a valuable resource at Hunter Ed classes as well as fairs and other public events. Thanks NRA!

One final topic:

I have received several inquiries from instructors whom have received letters indicating that they will soon be listed as inactive if they do not assist with a class in the near future. Please note that our records are kept based upon your original date of certification. Therefore, it is required that you have assisted with two classes every 24 months from that original date. For instance, if the original certification was 2/04, the instructor will need to teach two classes by 2/06 and two more between 2/06 and 2/08.

Thanks again to everyone for all of your hard work, please let me know what I can do to help out.



Ozark Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Larry Lindeman

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Need something to do after the firearms deer season? You may want to consider trapping. It's a great way to pass some time, work off a few holiday pounds, it's a wonderful link to the past, and it gives one yet another reason to get outdoors. It can also be profitable and can help build a good relationship with landowners by helping them to removing surplus or problem-causing furbearers such as raccoons, river otters, beavers, coyotes etc.

There are several methods depending upon what critter is the target of your pursuit. The oldest method of which is the leg hold trap. Sizes and styles of these traps vary widely, again depending upon the intended use of such traps. It's best to talk or go with or become an "apprentice" with an experienced trapper to pick up some tips. One can also become a member of the Missouri Trappers Association by contacting Mr. Troy Crooks, Treasurer, P.O. Box 92, Newburg, MO 65550. Individual memberships cost as little as \$15.00 and a Resident Trapping permit is available for only \$10.00 from any regular hunting / fishing license vendor.

I also like to use the conibear type traps for beaver, and river otter. These are very effective but safety precautions must be taken with this type of trap to ensure that the trapper's own fingers and appendages don't get in harm's way. Remember, we don't want trapping to literally cost you an arm or a leg or even a finger!

The newest method to me is the method of using the cable restraint. In order to obtain a cable restraint permit, one must take a class describing the rules, specifications, limitations, and other procedures one must follow in order to use this method. It is somewhat like a snare except it is more humane, and precautions are taken to decrease the likelihood of entrapping species other than the target animal. This type of trapping has gained the approval of many dog owners for it does not damage their feet and legs should a dog wind up in a "loop"

(cont., on page 15 - Ozark)

(cont., from page 14 - Ozark)

by mistake. Cable restraint permits can only be obtained from Jefferson City (at a cost of \$10.00) after completing the course. Information pertaining to such courses can be obtained online or contacting your OSS. While it may be too late to find or take a class this year, be looking in the early fall next season. It's a lot of fun "lassoing" a bobcat or coyote.

I was fortunate enough to have my grandfather teach me what he knew about trapping and the care of the furs (which is another lengthy topic I won't even attempt to address in this article) in order to fetch top dollar, but there are still trappers out there who are more than willing to pass along what they know, and as we teach in our hunter-ed classes, this is just another tool to keep the number of furbearers, which is a renew-able resource, in check.

In all cases, obtain permission from private landowners and be sure that you meet all regulations outlined in the wildlife code and trapping regulations before heading out, and have fun.

* * * * *

Since the Ozark region encompasses such a vast area, instead of just one Hunter-Ed instructor's appreciation Banquet, this year I am holding three such events. I do need to know which one of these my instructors can attend, so I can be sure their awards are at the right location and get a good head count. Plans are for MDC to supply the meat, drinks, paper plates etc. and I'm asking that every family that attends bring one covered dish (veggie, salad or dessert).

The choices of the dates and locations are as follows:

Friday, January 16, 2009 6 pm- 9 pm at the Twin Pines Education Center at Winona.

Friday, January 23, 2009 6 pm- 9 pm at the Waynesville Rural Fire District Headquarters, 1502 Ousley Drive in Waynesville.

Friday, February 20, 2009 from 6 pm - 9 pm at the Mansfield Assembly of God Church 340 N. Julie Ave in Mansfield.

Whichever event you plan on attending, please RSVP by phoning (417) 256-7161. I hope to see you at one of these banquets!

Thanks for what you guys and gals do! ...and...together, let's keep 'em pointed in a safe direction.



Northwest Region

Conservation Education Supervisor
TJ Peacher
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The Chillicothe District had their HE Banquet On Dec. 19th. Instructor of the year was Jared Cosgrove. The agent of the year is Alan Bradford.

Jared Cosgrove has been an Instructor since 2003. He has always done a great job in his classes, and had great student satisfaction. Put that together with beginning a field day with his HE classes and you will see why I chose him for Instructor of the year. His Field day included crossing obstacles alone and with a companion, several different carries in several different situations. It also included a live fire of pellets and archery. If the facility would have allowed it they would have shot shotguns also. For this he has been chosen as Volunteer Instructor of the Year.

Alan Bradford was chosen as Agent instructor of the year for his attention to detail. Alan always sends in his paperwork error free. This attention to detail is worth mentioning here as not everyone's paperwork is error free. I spend a good part of my day when class paperwork comes in correcting student forms and amending Instructor report forms. It is always refreshing to see someone that takes pride in their paperwork.

Other Award recipients were Donnie Asher, Binoculars; Alan and Carol McCloud, Knife; Dick Liedorff, Briefcase; David Link, Briefcase, Thermos, Wes Strange, Mug; Pat Romine, Watch. Big thanks to everyone who came out to the Banquet. And another big thank you for all you do during the HE Season.

I will look forward to working with all of you in my new capacity as Conservation Education Supervisor. We have conducted our interviews for the new Outdoor Skills Specialist at this time and will have him start just as soon as he can. When he does get started I will take him around to the different classes in the spring and introduce him. Until then I will still be maintaining HE on Both sides of I-35.

Again a big thanks to all of you for another year in the bag and hundreds of kids have been educated to hunt safe, thanks to you! If you need anything please do not hesitate to find me. Thank you and God Bless.

* * * * *

The HE Banquet for the St. Joseph District will be Jan. 17th 2009 at the St. Joseph Regional Office. Social Time is at 6:00pm and dinner starts at 6:30pm. Instructor of the year and agent of the year will be announced at the time. The Online HE Field days we have been having are taking off well. We anticipate greater response in the future. If you have not been involved with one of these field days, you might want to contact us ahead of time so we can get you trained up so you can help out. We need all the help we can get. As you know Mike Perry has retired. Many of you donated to a gift for him. He will be at the HE Banquet so please come out and tell a funny story on Mike. Nothing that would make him look bad unless it is really funny.

We will be having some youth hunts this spring please let me know if this is something that would interest you. We have use for all sorts of expertise.

(cont., on page 16 - St. Joe)

(cont., from page 15 - St. Joe)

If you receive a letter from Jefferson City, that concerns you, please call me directly. I may be able to straighten out any misunderstanding between HQ and the field. They are trying to clean up their files and mean no disrespect when you get a letter telling you that your status has been suspended. It may be as simple as a clerical error. Everyone in our organization is trying hard to please everyone, and sometimes we step on a tail. Again, please be patient while these files are being cleaned up.

The new OSS will be at the banquet so this will be your first chance to get to meet him. After he gets on I will take him around to meet the different instructors at your location where you teach. We will also appreciate your patience in the interim of training the New OSS. We feel confident we have picked a quality person and we hope you think so too.

To all of the Instructors that keep this program running I salute you. Your dedication is refreshing when I am not firing on all cylinders. You deserve more thanks than I can offer in an article. I hope all of you know how valuable you are to the program. Regretfully, this may be the last HE article I write for a while. So until I see you next time, thank you and God Bless.



Central Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
Brian Flowers
brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov

A big thanks to all of the volunteer Instructors who worked hard this past fall. Hunter education courses were very full throughout the region and everyone stepped up to meet the high demand. We have examined a few areas where more classes are needed and we will be contacting instructors in those areas. Now more than ever it is imperative that we plan hunter education courses for the upcoming year. Please look at your calendars now and send me dates and information for your 2009 class schedule.

I will be hosting two new Hunter Education Instructor Training Academies in 2009. These are for new instructor candidates and will replace my new instructor training classes. The idea behind the training academy is to fully equip a new candidate with all of the educational tools they will need. Not only will candidates receive the basic training that most are familiar with, they will also attend sessions taught by veteran instructors. These veteran instructors will be able to give the new candidates tips and tricks that have been gained from years of teaching experience. Candidates will also be required to teach a portion of the material in front of the class. The dates for these training sessions will be February 9, 16 & 23 and July 6, 13 and 20th. Times will be 5:30pm to 9:30pm each evening with the location to be announced. New candidates must attend all three sessions.

Those wishing to sign up for this training may contact me at the Regional office or by email at brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov.

On-line hunter education is taking off in Central Region and I have scheduled several field days. Hunter Education Volunteers are needed for the following dates: Feb. 7th Camdenton MDC Office 8am-1pm, May 9th Charles Green Conservation Area 8am-1pm, July 18th Runge Conservation Nature Center 8am-1pm and Oct. 17th Charles Green Conservation Area 8am-1pm. If you are interested in helping out at one of these events please contact me.

Our New Instructors for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Courses.

Welcome New Instructors!

These new instructors have all completed their training, classroom certification and background checks (Sep through Nov) and are ready to teach. So all you others out there be the great mentors we know you are. Get with your OSS and make contact with these folks and get them involved now. If you recognize any of these folks who might live near your, please give them a call and ask if you can help them get started. Remember, it is always appreciated when you lend a helping hand.

Central Region

Saline County

Joshua Hume - HE

Southeast Region

Butler County

Laurie Layton - HE

Southwest Region

Lawrence County

Philip Montgomery - BHE

Christian County

Jean Sigleton - BHE

Greene County

Curtis Bishop - HE & BHE

David Harris - HE & BHE

Keith Wiedemann - HE

Ali Underwood - HE

Colette Bridges - HE

David Rauch - HE

Jasper County

Rusty Russell - HE

John Redden - HE

Clinton Worley - HE

Newton County

Aaron Shewmake - BHE

Chris Pendergraft - HE

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(cont., from page 16 - New Instructors)

Polk County

Andy Burdick - HE

Laclede County

Brian Moore - HE

McDonald County

Carla Hottinger - HE

Barry County

David Bolton - HE

Erin English - HE

Taney County

Steve Claspille - HE

Kansas City RegionSt. Clair County

Jeffrey Rush - BHE

Benton County

Kimberly Miller - HE

Northwest RegionLivingston County

Thomas Melte - HE

Justin Kreatz - HE

Ozark RegionDouglas County

Jason Edwards - HE

St. Louis RegionSt. Charles County

Stephen Koeneman - HE

Joseph McFadden - BHE



(cont., from page 6 - FAQ's)

turkey permits

- Allowing nonresident youth to hunt during the 2-day youth spring turkey season beginning in 2010
- Allowing nonresident college and technical school students residing in Missouri to purchase resident permits
- Establishing a consistent hunter-education and associated age requirement for mentors
- Establishing a light-geese conservation order permit beginning with the 2010 conservation order (residents \$5, nonresidents \$40)
- Delaying the establishment of a requirement to sign up for a simple, user-friendly way to verify landownership for those receiving free landowner permits
- Eliminating nonresident landowner reduced-price deer and turkey hunting permits.

Non-resident hunter and angler permit changes effective July 1, 2009:

- Nonresident Fishing, from \$40 to \$42

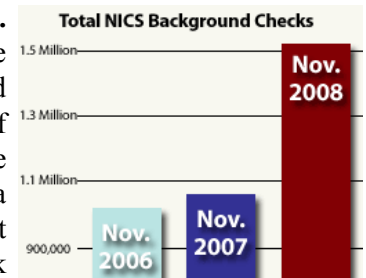
- Nonresident Furbearer Hunting/Trapping, from \$120 to \$130
- Nonresident Small Game Hunting, from \$75 to \$80
- Nonresident Spring Turkey, from \$175 to \$190
- Nonresident Fall Turkey, from \$105 to \$110
- Nonresident Firearms Any-Deer Hunting, from \$175 to \$225
- Nonresident Firearms Antlerless Deer Hunting, from \$7 to \$25
- Nonresident Archer™s Hunting, from \$150 to \$225
- Nonresident Managed Deer Hunting, from \$175 to \$225
- Nonresident Archery Antlerless Deer Hunting, from \$7 to \$25

News Tidbits

From National Shooting Sports Foundation Bullet Points

Full articles can be found at: <http://www.nssf.org/>**BACKGROUND CHECKS ON GUN SALES MOST EVER IN NOVEMBER .**

Background checks on the sale of firearms reached record levels during the month of November, pointing to a spike in sales for the month. Data from the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) show a 42 percent increase in November firearm purchaser background checks. A total of 1,529,635 checks -- the highest monthly total ever -- were reported for the month, up from 1,079,923 in November 2007. Federal law requires FBI background checks on individuals purchasing firearms from federally licensed retailers. The NICS increase coincides with an increase in federal excise taxes reported by firearms and ammunition manufacturers, another key economic indicator for the firearms industry. Trends such as excise taxes and NICS data are strong indicators of sales patterns; however, they are not actual sales. There is no data source that captures firearms sales by month.



RIFLE COACH BRIGGS TO BE FETED . . . More than 100 people from all over the world will be coming to Fort Benning on Dec. 13 to honor Frank Briggs upon his retirement. Briggs has been a U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit coach who coached the International Rifle Team and formerly served as head coach of the International Pistol and Service Rifle teams. He was the first director of Olympic Shooting Programs for the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY HELPS YOUNGSTERS COPE . . . Sportsmen again showed their desire to help those less fortunate when the Ruffed Grouse Society three years ago began Under Broken Wings (UBW). This is a program that reaches out to youth with physical challenges. On this year's

(cont., on page 18 - News)

(cont., on page 17 - News)

hunt, 13-year-old Brittany Zebrasky of Hartland, Wis., who has been fighting a brain tumor since age 5, was invited and all expenses were paid to participate in the society's annual National Grouse and Woodcock Hunt, in Grand Rapids, Minn. Brittany bagged her first grouse. "She is an inspiration to us all," said UBW board member Jim Hayett, who helped guide Brittany on her hunt. "Not only has she been back in the hospital three times since the hunt, but she found time to shoot a nice buck during the Wisconsin bow season."

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED: THE FUTURE OF HUNTING

... Sports Illustrated magazine featured a story in last week's issue titled "The Future of Hunting." The article focuses on "how the decline of hunting is changing the natural order of predator and prey." Read the complete article. <http://vault.sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1148866/1/index.htm>

QUADRIPLAGIC GETS DEER, WITH HELP FROM FRIENDS . . .

A quadriplegic since 1981, Ray Ganyo of Grand Forks, N.D., with the aid of a specially equipped wheelchair and some very special friends and industry members, successfully deer hunted near Thief River Falls, Minn. "It's nice to know there's people willing to help if you have an interest, whether it's hunting, fishing or whatever," Ganyo said.

Fatal Deer/Car Crashes Double Since 1993

November 13, 2008

A new report from the Highway Loss Data Institute points to urban sprawl and overlapping habitat as the main reason for a significant increase in fatal vehicular accidents involving deer and other wildlife.

According to the report, there were 223 vehicular deaths caused by wildlife last year, up from 150 in 2000 and 101 in 1993.

In the past 15 years, Texas has led the country with 227 fatalities, followed by Wisconsin with 123 and Pennsylvania with 112.

It's also comes as no surprise that the overall number of animal-vehicle crashes is also on the rise. State Farm Insurance Co., the nation's largest car insurer, has estimated 1.2 million claims industry wide for crashes with animals over a 12-month period ending June 30 of this year. State Farm says that claims for those types of crashes have increased nearly 15 percent over the last five years.

Commenting on the report, the Governors Highway Safety Association cautioned that the numbers need to be looked at in context, noting there are more than 12,000 deaths each year related to drunk drivers.

Anne McCartt, the Insurance Institute for Highway

Safety's senior vice president for research agreed the number of deer-related fatalities doesn't compare to the number of people killed in alcohol-related crashes, but noted the number has increased substantially in recent years.

"We're not suggesting it's of the same magnitude, but they do result in injuries and death," she said.

Ruger Issues Safety Warning and Recall November 16, 2008

Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. has announced a recall on certain new LCP pistols based upon reports from the field indicating the firearm may discharge when dropped onto a hard surface with a round in the chamber.

The company stressed that no injuries have been reported.

As a result of the reports, the company said last week it would retrofit all older LCP pistols bearing the serial number prefix 370 (that is, serial number 370-xxxxx). The retrofit involves installation of an upgraded hammer mechanism at no charge to the customer.

Ruger LCP owners may sign up for the safety upgrade or obtain additional information in one of three ways: visiting the LCP recall website at www.ruger.com/lcprecall; E-mailing LCPrecall@ruger.com; or calling the LCP Recall hotline at 1-800-784-3701

7-Year-Old to Conservation Officer: 'Daddy Lied' November 08, 2008

An Escambia County, Fla. boater stopped by a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officer for a routine safety equipment inspection found himself in an awkward parental predicament in late October.

When asked by the officer if he'd been fishing, the unnamed boater replied that he had not; instead he was just trying out a new watercraft he had just purchased.

That's when the man's 7-year-old daughter—who obviously knew the difference between right and wrong—chimed in.

"Daddy lied," she politely informed the officer.

Caught in his lie, the boater admitted his guilt and produced four red snapper—two of which he said had been caught by his truthful little girl.

The man was subsequently cited and instead of having fish for dinner, we can assume that daddy ate crow that night.

"All bowhunters should remember that any deer you take with a bow and arrow is a trophy." *Anonymous*

New Caps for Instructors

Jefferson City has taken a step forward for providing instructors another unique identifier for the classroom, programs and other events.



First, is establishing a cap for Bowhunter Education Instructors. As BHE instructors know camouflage is the mark of a bowhunter and to go along with that theme the cap pictured below was selected. It is camouflaged to acknowledge the above point, has a nice buck whitetail deer mixed into the scene to acknowledge the main game hunted in Missouri with archery equipment and has the Missouri BHE Instructor Logo on the front to acknowledge your position in our program. This cap will be going to all currently active instructors and new instructors.



Second, is a new Hunter Education Instructor cap. We were hoping to have all the details



worked out before the upcoming award banquets, but we may not make it as typical government red tape delays the process. This new cap was selected to show the diversity of our hunter education program. The hunter orange portion to show our linkage to safety, deer and upland hunting, camouflage to show the traditions of other hunting like turkey, squirrel, predator, etc., the black sweeping forward lines to show our instructors and program's continual movement forward. On the front the HE Instructor logo and on the back the tribute to

all who helped achieve over one million certified students in the state. This cap will be going out to all active instructors and will be given to all new instructors.

"I prefer to hunt large animals with a bow and arrow rather than a rifle. With a bow in hand I know that I must get within forty yards of what I will shoot, and I must be willing to wait until I can take a clear shot at the vital killing area. I am aware that this handicaps me considerably over the hunter with a rifle, but I accept the challenge with relish."

James A. Swan-In Defense of Hunting

INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS

IHEA has a central web page that lists discount offers to instructors. This webpage can be found at <http://www.ihea.com/instructors/special-offers-for-instructors.php>, or go to ihea.com, click the Instructors tab on the green bar, then click Special Offers For Instructors.

You don't have to be a member of IHEA (although it is encouraged) to receive a discount. All instructors qualify, but the vendor will require that they provide documentation to prove that they are a state certified HE instructor.

Username: instructor

Password: gohunt

NBEF has a central webpage that lists discount offers to instructors. This webpage can be found at <http://www.nbef.org/instructor.html> (yes, instructor is mis-spelled) or you can go to their home page at <http://www.nbef.org> and click on Instructor Section. Password is wadsworth.

A Continued Call For Updated Information

Lately we have been getting a large number of instructor mailings back from the post office and need everyone's help. If you know an instructor that hasn't received recent letters, newsletters the Department's latest Fact Book that was recently sent out have them contact us. Over the years apparently several instructors have moved, gotten Post Office Boxes or started receiving their mail at home instead of the Post Office Box have them call or email us.

Additionally, we attempted to create an email data base for all instructors with email addresses to get updates and information out to faster than mailing. We never quite got all the addresses right and now the department has switched email software. If you would like to get information, news and updates quickly please send me an email with "Instructor List" as the subject line to: tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov and we will get you on the list pronto. Very soon we hope to have this newsletter on the web where you can see it in full color, download it to send to your family and friends or print it out if desired.

NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Best effort to conserve and manage wildlife that the world has ever seen.



- Wildlife is Held in Public Trust
- Eliminating Commerce in Dead Wildlife
- Allocating Wildlife Use Through Law
- Hunting Opportunity for All
- Wildlife May be Killed Only for Legitimate Reasons
- Wildlife is an International Resource
- Science is the Basis for Wildlife Policy

"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value." — Theodore Roosevelt

Nate Harling Photo